

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6302

BILL NUMBER: SB 94

NOTE PREPARED: Mar 6, 2007

BILL AMENDED: Mar 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Individuals with Disabilities.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Landske

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. VanHaaften

BILL STATUS: 2nd Reading - 2nd House

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill changes terms used to describe individuals with disabilities.

Golden Hoosier Discount Card: The bill establishes the Golden Hoosier Discount Card Program within the Division of Aging. It allows an Indiana resident who is at least 60 years of age or who has a physical or mental impairment substantially limiting one or more major life activities to obtain a Golden Hoosier Discount Card that entitles the cardholder to discounts from participating organizations.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Code Revision Commission.)

Effective Date: (Amended) Upon passage; July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) *Golden Hoosier Discount Card:* Startup costs for the Golden Hoosier Discount Card Program are estimated to be \$3,076,000. This estimate is based on the experiences of the state of Ohio in implementing and administering the Golden Buckeye Program. The program would cost approximately \$145,000 annually thereafter to maintain it.

Background: The Golden Buckeye Program was implemented in 1976. The Division of Aging (DOA) anticipates developing a program similar to the Golden Buckeye Program. Based on Ohio's experience, it is estimated that as many as 25,000 businesses may participate in the program. It is also estimated that approximately 1,711,000 individuals would be eligible to receive the Discount Card.

The DOA has estimated that 18 additional employees would be needed to implement this program. Two positions at the Division would be responsible for managing and coordinating the program. Additionally, one

position would be located in each of the 16 Area Agencies on Aging. These employees would be responsible for contacting businesses to participate in the program and helping to determine the discount, as well as taking applications and issuing the Golden Hoosier Discount Card. The cost of salaries, fringe benefits, and indirect costs for these employees is estimated to be approximately \$850,000 for one year.

Following the implementation phase, the DOA reports that it would need one staff, located at the Division, to maintain the program. The estimated salary and benefits for this employee is \$45,000.

Public relations, marketing, and a media campaign are estimated to cost \$515,000 initially, and approximately \$100,000 annually following implementation. A high-end estimate for developing and producing both the Discount Card and the decal that would be distributed to participating businesses is estimated to cost \$1,711,000. However, this estimate is based on the assumption that every eligible person will apply for the card; the likelihood of this occurring is minimal. Approximately 2,600 individuals will become age-eligible annually following implementation.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) Existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) Existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) Authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) Funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) New appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) *Golden Hoosier Discount Card*: The bill specifies that the Golden Hoosier Discount Card is to include discounted entrance fees at Indiana State Parks, recreation areas, reservoirs, forests, historic sites, museums, memorials, and other state properties at which a fee is charged for admission. The Department of Natural Resources runs the Golden Hoosier Passport Program (IC14-19-3-4), which provides a 50% discounted annual pass for persons age 65 and over and persons eligible for Social Security Disability payments. Depending on the discount arrangement with the Golden Hoosier Discount Card Program, the Department of Natural Resources may experience some revenue loss due to one-time admissions to persons not wishing to purchase an annual pass or the expansion of the existing discount program to younger persons. Administrative actions taken with regard to how the two discount programs are combined and how the expanded eligibility for the Golden Hoosier Passport is implemented will determine if the Department of Natural Resources would need additional resources to implement the provisions of this bill. It is not known if the Department could absorb any additional cost.

Revenue collected from the sale of the Golden Hoosier Passports fund operations of the Department of Natural Resources.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Aging; Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Indiana Business Research Center, <http://www.ibrc.indiana.edu/>;

Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Aging.

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